

Message Text

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ACTION EA-09

INFO OCT-01 ISO-00 CIAE-00 DODE-00 PM-04 H-02 INR-07 L-03

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IO-10 /067 W

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R 110530Z OCT 75

FM AMEMBASSY TAIPEI

TO SECSTATE WASHDC 7320

INFO AMEMBASSY MANILA

AMEMBASSY SEOUL

AMEMBASSY TOKYO

AMCONSUL HONG KONG

USLO PEKING

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E.O. 11652: N/A

TAGS: PINT, MILI, TW

SUBJECT: ROC DOUBLE TEN CELEBRATIONS

1. IN HIS DOUBLE TEN ADDRESS WHICH WAS BROADCAST LOCALLY OVER RADIO AND TELEVISION, PRESIDENT YEN CHIA-KAN NOTED COMMUNIST ATROCITIES ON THE MAINLAND AND THE PRESENT STATE OF "TURMOIL AND DISRUPTION" THERE. HE ALSO ATTACKED THE CONCEPT OF DETENTE. "AS A CONSEQUENCE OF RAMPANT APPEASEMENT AND RISING COMMUNIST FEROCITY," HE SAID, "SOME FREE NATIONS HAVE LOST THEIR DIRECTION AND DEVIATED FROM THEIR PRINCIPLES. THEY HAVE GONE SO FAR AS TO SEEK DETENTE WITH THE COMMUNISTS IN THE HOPE OF BUYING A FEW MOMENTS OF PEACE. OTHERS HAVE ADOPTED

A FOREIGN POLICY OF BEFRIENDING COMMUNISTS AND A DOMESTIC POLICY OF ANTI-COMMUNISM. SUCH A PRACTICE CAN ONLY GET THEM INTO TROUBLE AND WILL

LEAVE NO ROOM FOR RETREAT...THE TRAGEDY OF INDOCHINA ONCE AGAIN VERIFIED THAT THE ILLUSIONS OF DETENTE AND APPEASEMENT DO NOT HELP IMPROVE

THE WORLD SITUATION." (NOTE: THIS FOLLOWED BY TWO DAYS AMBASSADOR

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UNGER'S "DETENTE" SPEECH BEFORE THE AMERICAN UNIVERSITIES CLUB.)

2. AN ESTIMATED 16,000 OVERSEAS CHINESE FROM FIFTY COUNTRIES AND SOME 400 FOREIGN DIGNITARIES (INCLUDING ARIZONA GOVERNOR CASTRO AND CONGRESSMAN CHARLES H. WILSON) JOINED THE LOCAL POPULACE OF TAIWAN IN CELEBRATING THE ROC'S SIXTY-FOURTH ANNIVERSARY. UNDOUBTEDLY THE HIGHLIGHT OF THE DOUBLE TEN ACTIVITIES WAS AN EXTREMELY WELL-COORDINATED MILITARY PARADE -- THE FIRST SINCE 1964 -- WHICH LASTED NEARLY TWO HOURS. SOME 10,000 REGULAR TROOPS AND 25,000 RESERVISTS PARTICIPATED IN THE PARADE. A WIDE VARIETY OF CONVENTIONAL MILITARY WEAPONS WAS DISPLAYED, INCLUDING HAWK AND NIKE-HERCULES MISSILES, ANTI-TANK BAZOOKAS, US/ROC CO-PRODUCED F5E FIGHTER JETS, AND AN IMPRESSIVE ARRAY OF M-48 TANKS. THE PARADE WAS EXTREMELY WELL-COORDINATED BUT THE EQUIPMENT DISPLAYED CONTAINED NO SURPRISES.

3. AFTER THE MILITARY PARADE A SPECIAL COMBAT SKILL DEMONSTRATION WAS HELD ALONG THE TAMSUI RIVER, INCLUDING HELICOPTERS DISPLAYING RESCUE TECHNIQUES, UNDERWATER EXPLOSIONS PLACED BY FROGMEN, AERIAL ACROBATICS BY A FLIGHT OF F5E'S, AND PARACHUTE DROPS.

4. COMMENT: THE ROC APPARENTLY DECIDED THIS YEAR TO USE DOUBLE TEN AS A MEANS OF IMPRESSING THE LOCAL POPULACE AS WELL AS VISITORS FROM OVERSEAS WITH THE ROC'S MILITARY STRENGTH AND CAPABILITY, PERHAPS WISHING, INTER ALIA, TO SHOW THAT THE PASSING OF THE GIMO HAD NOT DIMINISHED THE MILITARY VIGOR HERE. WHILE THE WEAPONS DISPLAYED WERE CONVENTIONAL AND THERE WERE NO SURPRISES, THE AUDIENCE COULD NOT FAIL TO BE FAVORABLY IMPRESSED BY THE HIGH DEGREE OF PROFESSIONALISM DEMONSTRATED BY THE MILITARY PARTICIPANTS IN THE PARADE.
UNGER

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